Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 /072 W

-----000104 221409Z /43

R 221208Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0823
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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USEEC

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV PGOV SY GW IS XG

SUBJECT: FRG ATTITUDE ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS CRITICIZED

1. DURING AN AUGUST 19 MEETING BETWEEN THE AMBASSADOR AND FONOFF STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, VAN WELL MENTIONED A DEMARCH HE HAD RECEIVED A FEW DAYS AGO FROM SYRIAN AMBASSADOR ABDEL KARIM AL-ATASSI. VAN WELL SAID THAT AL-ATASSI, WHO WAS IN A VERY DEJECTED STATE, CPMPLAINED BITTERLY THAT FRG WAS ASSUMING A TOLERANT ATTITUDE TOWARD ANNOUNCED LEGALIZATION OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK. HE ASKED WHY FRG WAS MAKING NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR DIPLOMATIC DEMARCHES IN OPPOSITION TO THE SETTLEMENTS.

2. VAN WELL SAID HE REMINDED AL-ATASSI THAT FRG HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE NINE'S JUNE STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST. HOWEVER, VAN WELL EMPHASIZED THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROBLEM OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND THE ARABS IS MUCH BIGGER THAN THE WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS QUESTION AND HAS TO DO WITH THE NATURE OF THE NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND THE PERSONALITY OF BEGIN. VAN WELL TOLD AL-ATASSI HE THEREFORE FELT IT MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FOR THE FRG TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR DIPLOMATIC DEMARCHES ON THE WEST BANK'S

SETTLEMENTS QUESTION, AT LEAST AT THE PRESENT TIME. MEEHAN	
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NNN	

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN13652
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770302-0817

Format: TEL From: BONN USEEC Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770839/aaaabglf.tel

Line Count: 64 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: fb7afa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1532370 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: FRG ATTITUDE ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS CRITICIZED

TAGS: PDEV, PGOV, SY, GE, IS, XG, FR

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fb7afa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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